under the Chairmanship of Prof. S.K. Joshi to identify promising academic institutions to be upgraded. The Committee considered the proposal received from Prime Minister's Office. However, based on stipulated parameters, the Expert Committee did not recommend any institution from Orissa for upgradation to the level of IITs.

Child Development Programme

1983. DR. KARAN SINGH:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have emphasized the need for proper planning and effective implementation of the child development programme;

(b) whether a two day national consultation of the State Women and Child Development Ministers and Secretaries was held in July, 2005;

(c) if so, the suggestion discussed and the decisions arrived at;

(d) the steps Government have suggested to the States in this regard; and

(e) the extent to which both the Centre and States are willing to cooperate in implementing these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The suggestions/recommendations made in the National Consultation *inter-alia,* include, Universalisation of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme to focus on reaching out to children under 3 years; relaxation in population norms for sanctioning and Anganwadi Centre; joint training module for ICDS & Reproductive Child Health (RCH) programme functionaries; change in Anganwadi Worker's job chart to reflect focus on children under 3 years; resource allocation in ICDS for quality improvement. The States have been requested to implement the above recommendations expeditiously.

(e) Both, the Central and State Governments, renewed their commitment to implement the ICDS scheme more effectively during the consultation.

Review of UGC Scheme

1984. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has initiated an academic